

wise data available on the number of people suffering from heart problem per one lakh population. Cardiovascular diseases are already a major cause of morbidity and mortality in India. A study on prevalence of coronary heart disease was carried out in Delhi and Vellore of urban and rural population during 1990—94, by the Indian Council of Medical Research. Based on history and ECG positive reports, prevalence of Coronary Heart Diseases per 100,000 in the age group of 35—59 years in Delhi and Vellore in urban and rural areas ranged from 2950—8820 respectively.

Medical Colleges/Hospitals In the Country

3983. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the Medical Colleges/Hospitals per one lakh population in the country for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether it is being matched with the rate of population increase; and

(c) if not, how are Government going to face the serious challenge from the sick population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) No such norms have been prescribed. However, the Central Government have been permitting establishment of new medical colleges with attached hospitals under the provision of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder. Permission has been given for establishment of new medical colleges in the following States during the last three years:—

Year	State	No. of permission given to Medical Colleges	Year-wise total
1	2	3	4
1998-99	Andhra Pradesh	1	2
	Tamil Nadu	1	
	Himachal Pradesh	1	
1999-	Andhra Pradesh	3	7
	Tamil Nadu	3	

1	2	3	4
2000-2001	Tamil Nadu	1	10
	Gujarat	2	
	Andhra Pradesh	2	
	Kerala	1	
	Uttar Pradesh	2	
	Madhya Pradesh	1	
	Karnataka	1	

(b) and (c) As per the Medical Council of India, there are 5 lakh registered allopathic medical practitioners and about 6 lakhs registered practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy which are considered sufficient to take care of health services all over the country including rural areas.

Amendment In Indian Medical Council Act

3984. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a), whether Government have decided to amend the Indian Medical Council Act to make it necessary to undergo a screening test in order to get practitioner's licence for foreign-educated doctors coming into the country;

(b) if so, whether the Indian doctors will have to face similar screening test before going to US or UK for starting practice there;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the Act is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian doctors going to USA and UK have to appear in the USMLE and PLAB tests respectively before registration in those countries.

(c) and (d) The Government have introduced a Bill in Rajya Sabha on 12th March, 2001 to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 to provide for screening test for the Indian Nationals Holding Foreign Medical Qualifications for their registration with the